

West Virginia Writers' Project

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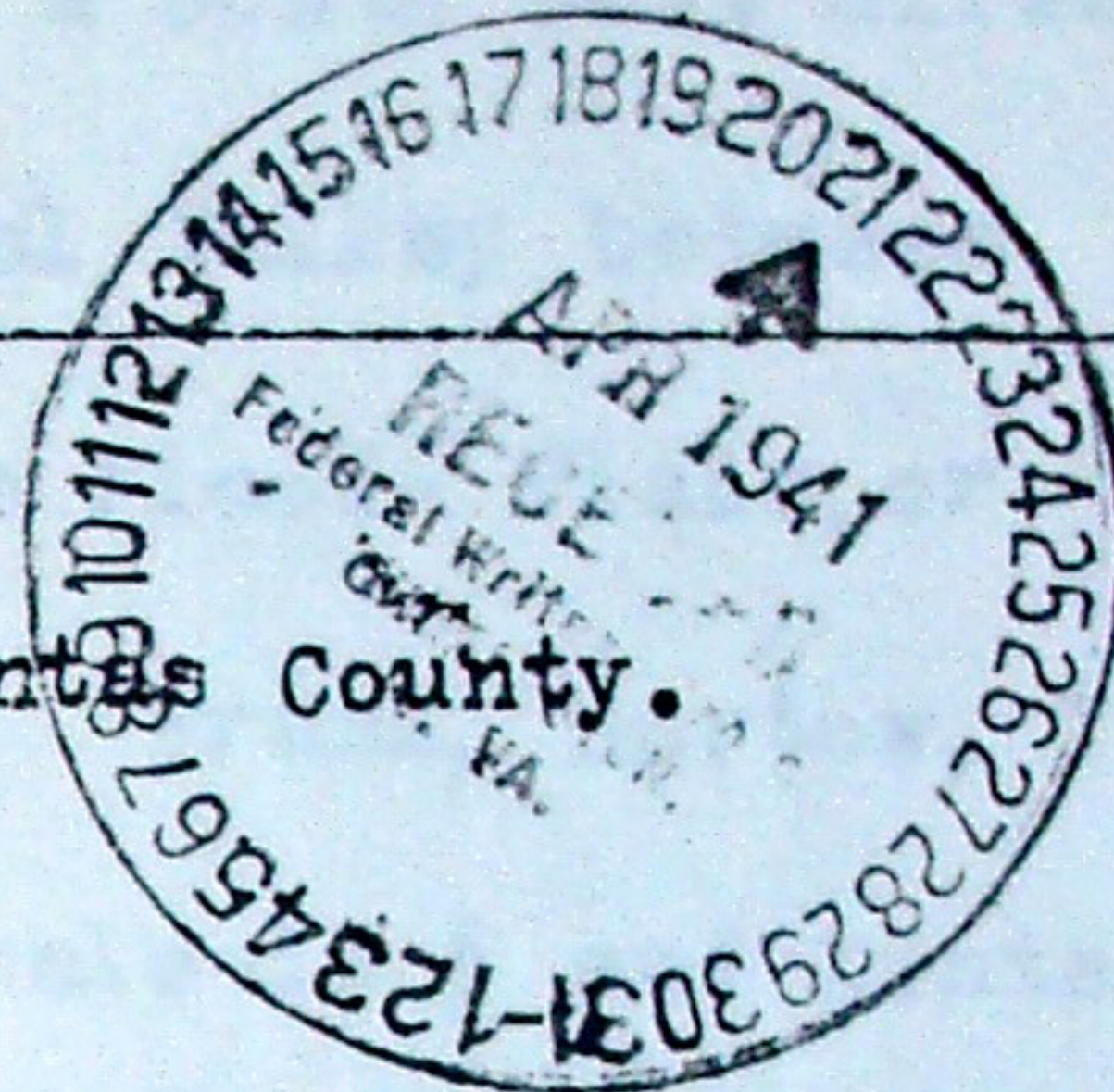
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From sketches of Pocahontas History

From parts of the Geological Survey made for Pocahontas County.



NATURAL SETTING . CHAPTER THREE (Pocahontas County)

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April 19th 1941.

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(Part 1)

(Sec D)

EAST FORK OF

GREENBRIER RIVER, The East Fork of Greenbrier River , heads in the Blister Swamp in the extreme North Eastern end of the County and flows in a South West direction to Thornwood . Here it swings to the West making a wide Level Valley between Thornwood and Durbin where it joins the West Fork . Upon the Flood- Plain, or Valley of the East Fork of the Greenbrier River the towns of Durbin, Frank, Bartow, Travelers-
Repose , Hoover town , Pill Town, Thornwood, (once called Dunlevie) and Winterburn. and the Camp Thornwood No 2586 of the C.C.C. is situated at the mouth of Five mile hollow, about a mile above the old Winterburn Town.

From Thornwood to its source, Little River of the East Branch of the Greenbrier River, ^{Poca} Poca Run, Abe Run., Bennett Run, flow into the East Fork from the Allegheny Mountain on the East, while Reservoir Hollow Run , Gum Cabin Hollow Run, Five Mile Hollow Run, Bearwallow Run, Campbell Run, and Mullenax Runs join it from the Burner Mountain Mountain Side on the West, Johns Run , heading on the Southern end of Burner Mountain flows to join the river at Frank. The East fork of the Greenbrier River has a length of 18.8 miles, with a total fall of 1175 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 62.2 feet and has a drainage area basin of 69.94 square miles .

The Little River , of the East branch of the Greenbrier River is the largest branch of the It has a length of 7.8 miles with 1500 feet fall, with a fall per mile of 192.3 feet per mile . The important Branches of the Little River are Buffalo Fork, which is 5.1 miles long, with a total fall of 660 feet , with a rate of fall per mile of 129.4 feet. the Branches of Buffalo Fork are Big Run and Tool Box hollow. Old House Run 1.8 miles long , and Slab Camp Run ,

NATURAL SETTING

WEST FORK OF THE GREENBRIER RIVER.

The West Fork of the Greenbrier River heads at the Pocahontas Randolph County line, East of Shavers Mountain and runs parallel on the East side of this Mountain in a well-entrenched meander to Durbin where it joins the East Fork to form the Greenbrier River proper. On Shavers Mountain on the West it receives a number of small streams which bear no names, except Cherry Run, Fill Run, Old Road Run, that flow in from the West side. On the East it receives the Mountain Lick Creek, and Little River, of the West Fork of the Greenbrier River, with its tributaries from the West Side of the Burner Mountain, Span Oak Run, Club House Run, Elk Lick Run, and Hinkle Run, Gertrude Run, Elk Lick Run, Fox Run, Mikes Run, Snorting Lick Run, from the West side of the Middle Mountain.

The West Fork of the Greenbrier River has a total length of 16.9 miles with a total fall 925 feet, with a rate of fall per mile 54.7 feet. and has a drainage basin of 62.62 square miles.

SHIVERS FORK OF CHEAT RIVER

Shavers Fork of Cheat River heads on the South end of Back Allegheny Mountain and Cheat Mountain at an elevation of 4600 feet and flows Northward through the Basin between these mountains into Randolph County. It continues across the latter County and into Tucker County where it is joined by the Dry Fork at Parsons to form Cheat River proper. Through out its entire course it follows rough topography, (and geologically speaking) mostly that of the Pottsville and Mauch Chunk Series, and hence is a region of small development with very few towns along its watershed.

Its tributaries in Pocahontas County, are Black Run, Rocky Run, First Fork, and Second Fork, s. The Shavers Fork of Cheat has the highest elevation of any river in the State; at Spruce in Pocahontas County, it has an elevation of 3852 feet, and the town of Cass on the Greenbrier River has an elevation of 2452 feet, which is 1401 lower than the Shavers Fork at these points.

The Shavers Fork of Cheat, in Pocahontas County has an entire length of 10 miles, with a total fall of 900 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 90 feet, and has a drainage area basin of, above Second Fork, of 16,96 square miles.

The First Fork in Pocahontas County has an entire length of 5 miles with a fall of 850 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of ¹⁷⁰190 feet per mile, and a drainage area basin of 9.97 square miles.

The Second Fork in Pocahontas County has an entire length of 4.1 miles, with a total fall of 1025 feet, and has a rate of fall per mile of 250 feet, and has a drainage area basin of 6.93 square miles.

Rockey Run, has an entire length of 2.25 miles, and a total fall of 505 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 224.4 feet, and has a drainage area basin of 2.76 square miles.

Black Run, has an entire length of 2.55 miles, and a total fall of 410 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 160.8 feet; and has a drainage area basin of 2.06 square miles.

Shavers Mountain and Shavers Fork of Cheat River, and Shavers Run are all named in honor of Peter Shaver, a soldier of the American Revolution, and who was killed by the Indians at his home on the Tygarts Valley River along about the year of 1782. Cheat River is any body's guess as to how it came by its name; There is false wheat, chest, still to be found along its course; On Shavers Mountain the moss covered stock rocks still fool you, by letting you down suddenly into pits covered by moss.

It is still a surprise to the traveller to climb a couple thousand feet from the Greenbrier River, to find another on the top of the mountain, flowing in the opposite direction. There is a tradition that the Cheat River received its name from the Indians, of the Cherokee tribe, who called the river Woh-na-ye which means in the Indian language to Cheat, hence the name "Cheat River".